

A Modern Proteus.

I breakfasted with Mrs. A. Andante was her cue; A slumberous spell was over me— I was andante too!

SELECT STORY.

ENTERPRISE;

THE TWO VAGABONDS.

Chapter II.

(CONTINUED.)

Will I? Not if I know it. I'm going, and I'll tell you why. Both my father and mother died when I was very young, leaving me wholly dependent upon the charity of an uncle, who is kind and liberal enough, but so cold and distant as to make me unhappy and discontented.

Why do you object to my company, then? Don't any more. Get ready as soon as you can, and steal off early to-morrow.

Chapter III.

Next morning, much to the sorrow of the whole school, Con departed as mysteriously as he had come. Shortly after, Bill was missed, and in his room was found a note, stating that he had gone to find Con, and that it would be useless to attempt to discover what direction he had taken, or anything concerning his whereabouts.

Then don't you use it. I'll take good care that it's all spent. But you'll have to get over this squeamishness, or you never will amount to anything.

Chapter IV.

Upon their arrival at St. Louis, Con immediately started, followed by Bill, for a cheap lodging house at which he had been accustomed to put up in bygone years. The landlord had forgotten him and Con made no attempt to freshen his memory.

of the deck of what he had seen. After taking a survey of affairs, the officer said,— It looks bad. If it is a pirate craft, they show considerable pluck in boarding us so near port. I don't think it can be; nevertheless, I will hail her and see. Boat ahoy! he shouted.

Bill was the treasurer and accountant of the firm. He went to the bed, and, stooping down, drew from under it a gorgeously painted tin box—a specimen of his artistic taste and ability. He opened it, and drew forth a roll of banknotes. Counting them over, he turned to Con, and said,— Twenty dollars left of the fifty we started with.

Our mariners drifted about until morning, when they were picked up by a vessel bound for Hong Kong. Next day they arrived at their destination worse off than when they started from San Francisco. They lost their wages for the voyage, and also the money they had saved while in California, besides being without any means of earning a living.

After innumerable fights with Chinamen and robbers of various nationalities, our sailors, at the end of four months, found themselves at Nankin, looking out for a chance to ship. The opportunity soon offered, and Con and Bill secured berths on board a ship bound for England; while their companion on their tour shipped for South America.

Chapter V.

Their voyage to the "old country" was unmarked by any exciting adventures; on the contrary, it was quite tedious. One hot, summer day, they sailed up the Thames. Instead of shipping for America, as they had plenty of chances to do, they saw the sights of London, and then started out into the country. They wandered about for a while, and then, as their funds were reduced to a pretty low ebb, sought work. After some difficulty, they secured employment, Con in the stables, and Bill in the garden, of a country gentleman named Moran, who lived in Devonshire.

The servants want to put me down, because I don't cringe and beg, said Con, to his employer, and I won't stand it. Why, your butler, coachman and footman think themselves superior to you, and get angry when I refuse to bow to their supreme majesties. I've thrashed two of them, and I'd do the same with the rest, if I was going to stay; but I'll leave to-day.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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